

Quantitative Benefits

In addition to the qualitative benefits the airport provides, a recent study quantified the economic impacts of the airport to the local community. As shown in the adjacent table, the total economic impact of the airport includes on- and off-airport businesses, visitor spending, and the spin-off effects of those impacts.

On-airport impacts represent economic activities that would not occur if the airport did not exist. They include payroll, operating and capital expenditures made by the airport, airlines, FBO's, maintenance facilities, ground transportation, etc.

Off-airport impacts represent financial transactions that occur primarily off-airport and are associated with visitor spending. These expenditures may include items such as lodging, food, entertainment, and retail purchases.

Spin-off impacts are calculated using impact multipliers, which are used to reflect the recycling of dollars through the economy.

Air dependent business impacts represent area businesses that are dependent on the airport for just-in-time shipping, a high degree of corporate travel, or specialized airport facilities and services such as free trade zones, U.S. Customs, and U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Services. These businesses would relocate or suffer substantial loss if the airport were not available. This impact is not included in traditional economic impact methodology and is provided as an indicator of the importance of the airport to area businesses.

Direct Economic Impacts			Spin-Off Economic Impacts	Air Dependent Businesses
On-Airport	Off-Airport			
FAA, Other Government Airport Management Aircraft Maintenance Vendors Retail & Restaurant Car Rental Parking Other Ground Transportation Fixed Base Operators	<u>Visitor Dependent Businesses</u> Hotels Retail & Restaurants Travel Agents Convention Centers Tourist Destinations		Suppliers of Materials & Services to Airports, Air Dependent Businesses and Visitor Dependent Businesses Respending of Worker Income Consumer Product and Service Sales	Local Businesses that depend on the Airport for just-in-time shipping, a high degree of corporate travel, or specialized airport facilities and services.
6 Jobs \$250,000 in Payroll \$650,000 in Economic Activity	11 Jobs \$144,000 in Payroll \$381,000 in Economic Activity		10 Jobs \$280,000 in Payroll \$881,000 in Economic Activity	14 Jobs \$416,000 in Payroll \$1.35M in Economic Activity
27 Jobs, \$674,000 in Wages, \$1.91M in Economic Activity				

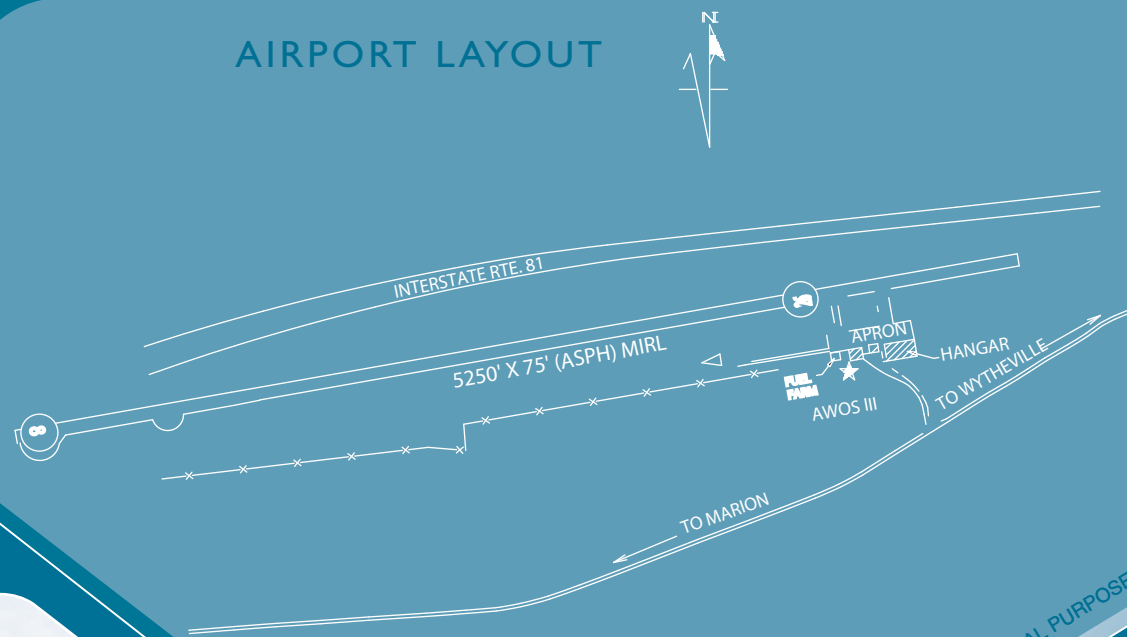
Totals may not add due to rounding

MOUNTAIN EMPIRE AIRPORT

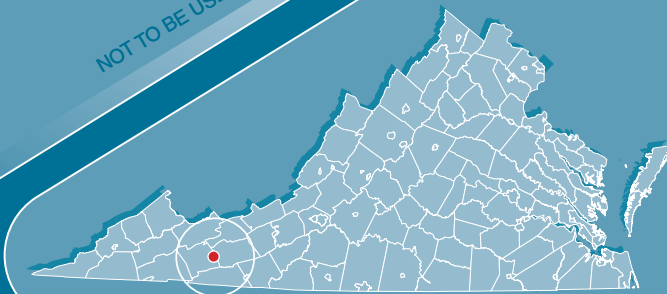


An Assessment of Economic Impacts

AIRPORT LAYOUT



Mtn. Empire Airport



Mountain Empire Airport (MKJ) is located near US Rte. 11 and I-81, in Smyth County, Virginia. Fuel service is available from Dragon Aire.

Qualitative Benefits

The airport contributes a wide range of quality-of-life benefits to the nearby communities including support of public events, law enforcement, search and rescue activities, forest fire patrols, and the annual air show.

The vicinity of the airport features a variety of outdoor recreation, and hunting and fishing resources, including the Rural Retreat Fishing Lake and Campground.

MOUNTAIN EMPIRE AIRPORT

Prepared by the Virginia Department of Aviation for the Smyth-Wythe Airport Commission